

School Travel Coordinator Newsletter

Buckinghamshire County Council—Spring 2019

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Spring School Travel Plan Coordinator Newsletter. I hope you all had a lovely start to your new year and are enjoying the start of spring.



May I introduce myself.

My name is Emma James and I started working for Bucks County Council in January, as the School Travel Plan Advisor. Although I am new to this side of things, I previously worked at a school for over 14 years as their Travel Plan coordinator. In my time there I achieved Gold standard which I maintained twice and won a National Award for hard work on promoting the school travel plan.

I am looking forward to meeting and helping you all to develop your School Travel Plans which will give the children the very important life skills they need to stay safe.

Not to mention trying to keep children healthy on their journey to and from school, which in turn will help to reduce congestion around the school gates.

Modeshift Stars

It's a busy start to the New Year with lots of new updates to the **Modeshift Stars** system. If you haven't already had a look, log-on and have a play:

<https://www.modeshiftstars.org/>

If you still need to register on the system go to the website and request a login. Please check with your Head Teacher or School Office that they don't already have one.

Like you all, I am still getting my head around the new system. Please note, some parts of the website are still undergoing changes, so bear with us while they are being updated.

As soon as the system is fully up and running I will be organising coordinator meetings and STARS Surgeries across the County.



Hands Up Surveys

If you still haven't completed your schools survey, please do so as soon as possible. STARS require an 80% pupil and 50% staff rate.

Please remember to keep your Modeshift Stars up-to-date.

SUSTRANS BIG PEDAL 2019

Sustrans Big Pedal is the UK's largest inter-school cycling, walking and scooting challenge inspiring pupils, staff and parents to choose human power for their journey to school.

For the first time, walking will be counted alongside cycling and scooting.

Sustrans Big Pedal will run for 10 days from 25 March to 5 April 2019 and is open to all primary and secondary schools in the UK, including SEN schools. Go to the website to sign up now.

<https://bigpedal.org.uk/>

Walking Maps

These bespoke individual school maps encourage children and parents to park away from the school gate and walk, cycle or scoot the rest of the way by showing 5, 10 & 15 minute walking zones. Schools will be heavily involved in developing the maps. Contact me for more details.

WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK

Walk to school week is in May.

We will be sending out stickers to all schools.

Every child that walks will be given a sticker. It's up to you if you want to run a competition along this week

The following are ideas for things children could do on their walk to school:

- count objects e.g. how many red doors have you seen
- notice where the post box is or the bus stop
- what traffic signs have you passed?
- Organise a treasure hunt

Consider what would work best for your school and the children and parents who will be walking.

Sometimes Walk to School week is a good chance to meet and work with the local councillor.

Ask your neighbours to get involved in what you are organising. It will show them that you are working hard to cut down on the traffic around the school gate. See also Living Streets Walk to School Page.

Go for Gold



Please note the Go for Gold Scheme will be relaunched in April with some new venues supporting us. If you have any questions, please get in touch.

WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK 2019

CELEBRATE WITH US

At Living Streets, we've created the **greatest national [Walk to School celebration](#)** where pupils and grown-ups around the UK unite for one week of walking to school.

Each year we develop a new **[five-day walking challenge](#)** aimed at primary schools - the perfect activity to take part in during Walk to School Week.

This year, to celebrate our **90th anniversary**, the challenge will get to the heart of walking and how it can benefit the whole community as well as improve individual wellbeing.



JOIN US 20-24 MAY 2019

For Living Streets' 90th anniversary we've picked a theme that is very close to our heart and cause. We will take pupils on a special walking journey re-tracing the steps of our greatest achievements over the course of the last 90 years.

[The classrooms packs](#) and activities are built to make the pupils feel empowered to change their walking environment for the better: they'll experience **first hand the importance of walking to school**.

Through the fun wallcharts and stickers, children will work collaboratively to transform an unwelcoming and cluttered walking environment into the most walkable street imaginable!

Each pack is suitable for a class of up to 30 children. All activities are curriculum aligned (KS1 & KS2) and packs contain everything your pupils need to join in the celebration.

Packs cost only £10 each and are undated so can be used during any week of the year if your school can't join during Walk to School Week (20-24 May 2019).

Order your packs here on our **[shop page](#)**

LIVING STREETS' ANNUAL FUNDRAISING EVENT IS BACK



On Tuesday 22 May this year thousands of children and grown-ups around the country will be wearing their happy shoes.

Why? They all want the right to walk to school safely, with fewer traffic jams and less toxic fumes in the air. This event is called [Happy Shoesday](#) and raises vital funds for Living Streets' work.

Will your school join them?

If you take part in [Happy Shoesday](#) and **swap the school run for a school walk**, you too can reduce the number of cars on our roads. With fewer cars at the school gates, your pupils can enjoy a happy, healthy and safer walk to school with fewer traffic jams, potential collisions and toxic air.

Living Streets' is the UK's only charity for everyday walking. **You can help us keep going to make streets safer for all.** This small action means you will be a part of the work to overcome barriers to walking. For example, our Walk To School campaign reaches millions of people. Above all, the work we do creates communities designed for people, not machines.



Register your school to take part and you'll get:

- Resource pack to create fun activities for the day.
- Steps to get parents and teachers signed up.
- A guide with top tips for waking to school.

[Click to Sign your school up today](#)



School Crossing Patrollers

We are currently looking for Patrollers and Relief's. Do you know anyone who can help?

Patrollers have an important role within the community helping children and their parents/carers to cross busy roads on their journeys to and from school.

For more information on current vacancies please log on to www.buckscc.gov.uk/scp

Corinne Randall—Aylesbury Vale and Wycombe (West):

01296 383432

Georgina Longley—Chiltern & South Bucks

and Wycombe (East):

01494 586639.

Job share welcome.

Footsteps Training

A three stage programme, Footsteps is run at school with the help of parent volunteers, TAs or Teachers

To run Footsteps at your school you need:

- A Coordinator to arrange training, and to keep a register of children.
- Volunteer Tutors to run the sessions.
- All Tutors to attend a FREE Bucks County Council Footsteps training course
- Have a valid enhanced DBS Certificate (organised by your school)

Training takes place at several locations across the County, including County Hall, Amersham and High Wycombe. Courses—last around 2 hours. Each volunteer is provided with a training guide.

Once trained Tutors take children out of class, in pairs, at least twice per stage. Each session lasts around 10 minutes. Certificates are awarded once a stage is completed.

Please contact Corinne Randall for more information or to book onto a course.

Contact the School Travel Planning Team

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Footsteps Training
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